April 10, 2025

I am a U.S amateur radio operator, licensed since 1971. I believe this proposed filing/action will hurt the Amateur Radio service's ability to provide emergency communications such that it places our national security at risk.

Please consider the following reasons to reconsider this action that would adversely affect the Amateur Radio service:

a) Amateur radio is a living, breathing public service tool — and when traditional communications systems fail, amateur radio operators step in. Time and again, hams have been a critical communications lifeline during hurricanes, wildfires, and other disasters. No other volunteer-based service provides this depth of grassroots capability, independent of the commercial infrastructure we too often take for granted.
b) Beyond emergency communications, amateur radio is a powerful, proven pipeline into America's STEM economy. From an early age, amateur radio operators are exposed to radio theory, electronics, antenna design, digital communication, cybersecurity, and countless other fields. This breadth of experience is unmatched — and it inspires careers in science, technology, engineering, and math at every level. For decades, amateur radio has fueled the very industries that drive American innovation and economic growth.
c) Amateur Radio costs the FCC virtually nothing. The FCC's burden for overseeing the amateur radio service is minimal. Volunteer examiners handle licensing. Enforcement actions are rare and generally addressed within the community itself. The amateur radio service operates with little regulatory overhead compared to the vast benefits it provides — a true bargain for the American people.

In short: amateur radio is an extraordinarily high-value service at practically no cost to the government. Thank you for your consideration; with due respect, please keep our Amateur Radio Service rules, regulations and associated FCC operations intact.

Thank you,

Christopher Blake, NX4N